

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A drum-type washing machine having ~~a self-balancing an~~ outer tub assembly without having a counterbalance, the outer tub assembly comprising:

a front outer tub ~~having~~ formed of a first injection molded compound having a first specific gravity, wherein the front outer tub comprises an open front and an open rear, ~~the front outer tub comprises a combination of a first material and a second material, different from the first material, wherein the combination of the first and second material is injection molded to form the front outer tub; and~~

a rear outer tub ~~having~~ formed of a second injection molded compound having a second specific gravity, different from the first, wherein the rear outer tub comprises a closed end and an open end coupled to said open rear of said front outer tub,

wherein said ~~front outer tub has a first~~ specific gravity is higher than ~~that of said rear outer tub~~ said second specific gravity.

2. (Currently Amended) The drum-type washing machine as claimed in claim 1, wherein the first injection molded compound comprises material of said front outer tub ~~is a polymer and the second material is a metal powder.~~

3. (Original) The drum-type washing machine as claimed in claim 2, wherein the metal powder is iron-based.

4. (Original) The drum-type washing machine as claimed in claim 2, wherein the metal powder is aluminum-based.

5. (Original) The drum-type washing machine as claimed in claim 2, further comprising at least one insert member integrally formed with said front outer tub by an insert injection molding process, wherein said at least one insert member has a specific gravity higher than that of the polymer.

6. (Currently Amended) The drum-type washing machine as claimed in claim 1, wherein the first injection molded compound comprises material of said front outer tub is a polymer and ~~the second material is an inorganic substance.~~
7. (Original) The drum-type washing machine as claimed in claim 6, wherein the inorganic substance is one selected from the group consisting of talc, CaCO₃, and silicon.
8. (Canceled)
9. (Original) The drum-type washing machine as claimed in claim 1, further comprising at least one middle outer tub having an open front and rear, said at least one middle outer tub being coupled between said front and rear outer tubs.
10. (Original) The drum-type washing machine as claimed in claim 1, wherein said front and rear outer tubs are integrally formed as one body.
11. (Previously Presented) A drum-type washing machine having ~~a self-balancing an~~ outer tub assembly without having a counterbalance, the outer tub assembly comprising:
a front outer tub having a first thickness and formed of a first injection molded compound having a first specific gravity, wherein the front outer tub comprises having an open front and an open rear, the front outer tub comprises a combination of a first material and a second material, different from the first material, wherein the combination of the first and second material is injection molded to form the front outer tub; and
a rear outer tub having a second thickness and formed of a second injection molded compound having a second specific gravity, different from the first, wherein the rear outer tub comprises a closed end and an open end coupled to said front outer tub,
wherein said ~~first front outer tub has a thickness is greater than said second thickness that of said rear outer tub.~~

12. (Currently Amended) The drum-type washing machine as claimed in claim 11, wherein the first injection molded compound comprises material of said front outer tub is a polymer and ~~the second material is a metal powder.~~
13. (Original) The drum-type washing machine as claimed in claim 12, wherein the metal powder is iron-based.
14. (Original) The drum-type washing machine as claimed in claim 12, wherein the metal powder is aluminum-based.
15. (Original) The drum-type washing machine as claimed in claim 12, further comprising at least one insert member integrally formed with said front outer tub by an insert injection molding process, wherein said at least one insert member has a specific gravity higher than that of the polymer.
16. (Currently Amended) The drum-type washing machine as claimed in claim 11, wherein the first injection molded compound comprises material of said front outer tub is a polymer and ~~the second material is an inorganic substance.~~
17. (Original) The drum-type washing machine as claimed in claim 16, wherein the inorganic substance is one selected from the group consisting of talc, CaCO₃, and silicon.
18. (Canceled)
19. (Original) The drum-type washing machine as claimed in claim 11, further comprising at least one middle outer tub having an open front and rear, said at least one middle outer tub being coupled between said front and rear outer tubs.
20. (Original) The drum-type washing machine as claimed in claim 11, wherein said front and rear outer tubs are integrally formed as one body.